



## **Tracking Warm Season Grasses**

**PURPOSE:** To incorporate lime, seed, and fertilizer, and to compress soil particles around the seed.

**METHOD:** Tracking

**DEFINITION:** The process of driving a bulldozer over applied lime, seed, and fertilizer.

**CRITERIA:** Bulldozer

- (a) 1.25 to 2.0 inch deep grousers are essential.
- (b) Track widths as available. Typically 12-22 inches. Wide track widths provide time efficiency.
- (c) Bulldozer size is important on slopes. Large bulldozers such as Cat 6, 7, or 8, and equivalents work better on steep loose soil materials than smaller bulldozers.
- (d) Keep blade raised at all times.

**OPERATION CONSIDERATIONS:**

- (a) Spread lime, seed, and fertilizer.
- (b) Track by driving a bulldozer up and backing down the slope to leave grouser tracks across the slope to reduce erosion and trap water.

(more)

- (c) Move bulldozer over one machine width when covered tracks meet. Do not double track because it is not necessary for seed germination and it is time consuming.
  - (d) Mulch is typically not needed where warm season grasses are used. Never apply mulch prior to tracking. Mulch would be pushed into the soil by the grousers and reduce germination of the seed due to drying of the soil and poor seed to soil contact.
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